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# Quadrennial reports for the period 2011-2014 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General***

**Addendum**

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## 1. Grupo Intercultural Almaciga

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

Grupo Intercultural Almaciga (Almaciga) is a NGO with headquarters in Madrid, Spain. It operates in Latin America and Asia, in cooperation with indigenous peoples' organizations. It also collaborates with other European NGOs and networks in promoting the rights of indigenous peoples in the European Union.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Almaciga works for the protection, promotion, and respect of the rights of indigenous peoples at the local, national, regional, and international level.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

During the reporting period, Almaciga has published several reports and publications on indigenous peoples' human rights and initiatives for sustainable development, and the impacts of corporate activity on indigenous rights. It has also provided technical and logistic support for the participation of indigenous representatives in relevant United Nations meetings. It has also funded, together with other NGOs, the European Network on Indigenous Peoples (ENIP) to promote indigenous rights more effectively within the European Union. ENIP has been an active participant at United Nations specialised meetings.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Almaciga has consistently participated in the meetings of the Human Rights Council, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). They also participated and supported indigenous participation at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), 20-22 June 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, 22-23 September 2014, New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Grupo Intercultural Almaciga has collaborated with the specialised United Nations mechanisms on the rights of indigenous peoples, including by submitting written information and supporting the activities of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, EMRIP, and UNPFII. Almaciga has also submitted relevant reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and supported the elaboration of reports by indigenous organizations to these bodies and their direct interaction with the experts and mandate holders.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Almaciga has developed projects to strengthen the participation of indigenous women in Cauca, Colombia; build capacity for greater participation and governance in Guatemala, Colombia, Ecuador, and Bolivia; sustainably manage indigenous territories in Paraguay; and develop strategies for the management of protected areas in South America, among others.

## 2. Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (HFHR) was created in 1989. It is active in Poland and abroad; mainly in the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Belarus, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

HFHR conducts national and international trainings and organizes conferences and seminars. It also provides expert consultations in the sphere of human rights and freedoms to individuals, NGOs and state institutions.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization participated in the sessions of Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland during the reporting period. The work of the United Nations on human rights constitutes an integral part of HFHR's domestic and international human rights schools, trainings, and workshops.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization sends members and participants to advanced international courses on human rights to the United Nations bodies in Geneva.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

HFHR cooperates with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Warsaw, Poland, and the Polish National Committee for the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

No activities were specified.

## 3. Howard League for Penal Reform

**Special, 1947**

**Introduction**

The Howard League for Penal Reform is a NGO based in London. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, established in 1866 to abolish capital punishment and promote more humane sentencing options.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization works towards fewer crimes and people in prison and safer communities. It carries out action research on a wide range of penal issues. It campaigns to achieve reform. It also has a legal team that represents children and young adults in custody to improve conditions inside and on release.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The charity makes submissions to various United Nations committees. In 2014, it submitted a critique of the compliance of the Government of United Kingdom with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The charity co-operated with NGOs across Europe to support research and campaigns to embed United Nations conventions. It also supported and promoted the National Preventative Mechanism.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization supported other organizations who attended and presented at the Crime Committee meetings.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The charity supports the Committee on the Rights of the Child and has participated in special sessions on the children of parents in prison.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

No activities were specified.

## 4. Human Rights House Foundation

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

The Human Rights House Foundation (HRHF) is headquartered in Oslo, Norway. It works in Caucasus and Eastern Europe, East and Horn of Africa, Western Balkans, and Western Europe. HRHF serves as secretariat for the Human Rights House Network (HRHN).

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

HRHF works to protect, empower, and support human rights organizations and unite them in an international network of Human Rights Houses. It focuses on the rights to freedom of expression, association, assembly, and to be a human rights defender.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

HRHF promoted Human Rights Council resolutions, especially on the right to be a human rights defender, by creating promotional material distributed in various languages in countries in which HRHF is active. HRHF also undertook capacity-building for lawyers and human rights defenders in six countries. It trained human rights defenders, journalists, and lawyers on the work of the United Nations.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization has participated in the following events during the reporting period:

- The 67th, 68th, and 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, 29 October-2 November 2012, 26 October-1 November 2013, 20-24 October 2014;
- The 18th-27th regular Session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, Switzerland, 2011-2014;
- Joint submission to the Second Cycle Universal Periodic Review (UPR) for Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Croatia;
- The 47th, 48th, and 53rd Session of the Committee against Torture, Geneva, Switzerland, 10-14 November 2011, 9-11 May 2012, 12-14 November 2014; and
- The 105th, 106th, and 111th Session of the Human Rights Committee, Geneva, Switzerland, 16-17 July 2012, 22-23 October 2012, 10-11 July 2014.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

HRHF submitted information to, facilitated, and participated in various expert meetings of United Nations special procedure mandate holders. It participated in various meetings with United Nations officials in Geneva and New York and in the countries in which HRHF is active.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

All of HRHF's initiatives are related to the MDGs as none of the MDGs can be implemented without an independent and universal civil society. Specifically on MDG 3, HRHF has initiated a campaign to promote women human rights defenders. HRHF created and exposed an exhibition featuring portraits of 18 women human rights defenders in HRHN. It acknowledged the vital role that women play locally, nationally, and internationally in protecting and promoting human rights.

## 5. Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International (HURIDOCS) is an international NGO established in 1982 that helps human rights organizations worldwide use information technologies and documentation methods to maximise the impact of their advocacy work. It develops tools and techniques and provides advocates with customised training and support.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization's mission is to strengthen the capacity of human rights organizations to manage and communicate information, enhancing their effectiveness and credibility. It works to ensure that human rights organizations have the tools, knowledge, skills, and supporting services to use their information resources effectively.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Through its publicly available tools, HURIDOCS contributes to making human rights information more easily available. The Caselaw Analysers make case laws of regional and international institutions better accessible. HURIDOCS developed websites for the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ). Various NGOs used HURIDOCS databases such as Casebox and OpenEvsys to facilitate their work in providing reports on human rights issues to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), Treaty Monitoring bodies, and other United Nations organs.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

HURIDOCS regularly participated in meetings of the Human Rights Council, the UPR, and various other United Nations meetings related to human rights.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

HURIDOCS had frequent contacts with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and other United Nations organs concerned with human rights. In particular, HURIDOCS collaborated with the OHCHR in Nairobi, Kenya, on a project related to the coding of a collection of almost 3,400 documents submitted to the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission of Kenya.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

HURIDOCS's work is linked to all MDGs. While HURIDOCS itself is not directly involved in humanitarian aid or advocacy, it is confident that its projects, in

collaboration with local and regional NGOs and national human rights institutions, have contributed to the realisation of the MDGs.

## 6. Hunt Alternatives Fund

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

The Institute for Inclusive Security (Inclusive Security), a programme of Hunt Alternatives, advances women's meaningful inclusion in all conflict prevention and resolution efforts. Its work focuses on the Middle East, South Asia, and parts of Africa. Inclusive Security also includes the Women Waging Peace Network — more than 2,000 women leaders from conflict regions with expertise in a wide range of topics related to peace and security.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Inclusive Security promotes women's participation by strengthening the capacity of those who shape peace and security policy; providing research; and equipping women to build coalitions and contribute effectively to peace processes.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

A core component of Inclusive Security's work is to advocate for policy reforms within the United Nations system and Member States to support the women, peace, and security agenda. Inclusive Security is a member of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security, where it advances the full implementation of all related Security Council resolutions and serves as a bridge between women leaders and policymakers at the United Nations.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization participated in the following meetings, among others:

- It served as a formal member in the Global Acceleration Instrument Financing Discussion Group, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), New York, 20 June 2014;
- It led a delegation of Syrian women to present policy recommendations to the United Nations Special Envoy and other United Nations entities, General Assembly, New York, September 2014;
- It served as a panellist at a side event of the Fourth Review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, New York, 10 June 2014; and
- It led annual trainings for select mission staff at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), New York, 2011-2014.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Inclusive Security collaborated with United Nations bodies, providing ongoing technical assistance and policy recommendations on women, peace, and security issues as well as draft language for relevant Security Council resolutions and events. As an example, it hosted a capacity-building workshop on implementing National Action Plans on Women, Peace, and Security with attendance from UN Women and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Kenya, 22-25 July 2014. It also co-produced the Training of Mobilizers Curriculum with UNDP to support women's leadership development for peace and security, 2012.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Inclusive Security has led trainings for, galvanized, and/or connected more than 5,000 officials and 3,000 women from 45 conflict regions, equipping them with the knowledge and tools they need to develop inclusive security policies and approaches, in support of MDG 3.

## 7. Inclusion International

**Special, 1975**

**Introduction**

Inclusion International (II) is a global federation of family-based organizations advocating for the human rights of people with intellectual disabilities worldwide. The organization represents over 200 member federations in 115 countries worldwide.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

With its member societies, II acts as an agent for change on the basis of four main principles affecting the lives of people with an intellectual disability and their families: inclusion in all aspects of everyday society; full citizenship that respects individual human rights responsibilities; self-determination in order to have control over the decisions affecting their life; and family support.

**Significant changes in the organization**

Inclusion International is undergoing a process of reviewing its membership structure and criteria to ensure a renewed and strengthened global network.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

II focuses on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). It organizes global campaigns, regional forums, and international conferences and provides Convention Action Teams (CATs) and technical support. Further, Inclusion International provides regular submissions to the CRPD Committee and other treaty-body committees. In 2013, the organization secured a project with the United Nations Democracy Fund, through which it promotes inclusive civic engagement and political participation of people with intellectual disability in Kenya, Lebanon, and Zanzibar.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

II participated in the annual sessions of the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD and all meetings of the CRPD Committee. II hosted side events during these events. In 2014, II also participated in the following consultations and conferences, among others:

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)/ United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) Education for All education flagship follow-up, September 2011;
- The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific's (UNESCAP) "Disability-Inclusive MDGs and Aid Effectiveness", March 2012, and High-level Intergovernmental Meeting, November 2012; and
- United Nations High-level Meeting on Disability and Development, September 2013.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

II has strong working relationships with UNICEF. It participates in the Global Partnership on Children with Disabilities and Development and collaborated on UNICEF's 2012 Partners Forum on Children with Disabilities and Development. It also meets regularly with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs' (DESA) Family Support Unit.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Inclusion International supports the MDGs through its efforts related to inclusive education and to realizing the rights secured in the CRPD. II hosts at least one regional event annually, which is an opportunity to share information with participants about the CRPD and the MDGs and to gather information from participants that is in-turn shared at the global level to support the monitoring and evaluation of the impact of those efforts on the ground. Additionally, an internationally renowned leadership institute in New Brunswick, Canada, informs participants on the theory of inclusive education, provides an opportunity to see inclusive schools in action, and engages participants in a critical analysis discussion on inclusive education.

## 8. Independent Advocacy Project

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

Independent Advocacy Project (IAP) is a non-partisan NGO registered under Nigeria's laws. IAP promotes respect for good governance in Nigeria through advocacy, coalition building, research, publications, and information sharing.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

IAP brings individuals, groups, and organizations together within and outside Nigeria to build partnerships and share information on ways to promote participation, accountability, and effectiveness at all levels.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IAP belongs to a number of coalitions, including Global Civil Society Friends of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). IAP participates actively in the work of the coalition: it shares perspectives with its members and works to improve Nigeria's implementation of the convention.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IAP has participated in several UNCAC Conferences of State Parties as an observer.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IAP collaborates actively with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The organization has attended a number of training programmes facilitated by UNODC, including one held in Dakar, Senegal, during the reporting period.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

IAP's work does not directly focus on the MDGs, but indirectly supports their realisation through campaigns that focus on transparency and accountability as a means to promote the enjoyment of social and economic rights. Independent Advocacy Project has recently focused on the issue of political corruption in Nigeria, through workshops, focus group discussions, desk research, and interviews. In that regard, IAP conducted a comprehensive desk research and sensitization of citizens ahead of the 2015 elections.

## 9. Indira Gandhi Integral Education Centre

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

Founded in 1988, Indira Gandhi Integral Education Centre (IGIEC) is a research, development, and training organization based in Odisha, India. The organization advocates for positive social change through national and international fora and provides training and learning opportunities to global activists and leaders through its Institute.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

IGIEC works to advance the rights of men, women, and girls, as well as the sexual and reproductive freedoms of all people; advance the welfare state; promote good governance; and engage in social service by working for the betterment of the under privileged sections of society.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization has undertaken activities to advance the development agenda of the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations at large by adopting MDG related projects during the reporting period. It conducted research, development, training, legal and family counselling, and empowerment activities for women, youth, rural populations, and tribes.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

No participation was specified.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

No cooperation was specified.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization has several projects that support the MDGs.

## 10. Indo-European Chamber of Commerce and Industry

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

The Indo-European Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IECCI) is a not for profit organization registered in India. IECCI has local offices in India and international desks in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Spain, Luxembourg, Portugal, Romania, Ukraine, Poland, the Netherlands, and Mauritius.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The two primary objectives of IECCI are the socioeconomic development of less developed regions in India and the promotion of trade and commerce between India and other countries. Its work includes advocacy, lobbying, sensitisation, market research and studies, training and capacity-building, corporate social responsibility, documentation, events, and projects at the grass-roots level.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The organization altered the "Main Objects" Clause of the Memorandum of Association in 2012, so as to make it more inclusive.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IECCI is promoting the MDGs in less developed regions, especially MDGs 1 and 3.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

No participation was specified.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IECCI participated in a civil society training on the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and its review mechanism, organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) and the UNCAC Civil Society Coalition in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 24-27 February 2014.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

IECCI contributed to MDG 1 in the State of Madhya Pradesh, India, by providing skill development, livelihood linkages, and leadership development support to 6,923 men and women during the reporting period. The organization also worked toward MDG 3 in Madhya Pradesh and across India through mass campaigns on women empowerment and gender equality through sensitisation, counselling and motivating, leadership development, and livelihood linkages to 5,479 women during the reporting period.

## 11. Initiatives: Women in Development

**Special, 1999**

**Introduction**

Initiatives: Women in Development (IWID) is a gender resource training, research, and advocacy organization. It operates in India and extends training support to South Asia and other countries.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization works toward an environmentally sustainable society; the development of poor and marginalized women; participatory training support to organizations on gender issues; conducting research on gender and development issues; promoting national and regional networks; and influencing policies from a gender perspective.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The organization has established Liaison offices in several states in collaboration with development organizations and academic institutions.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

During the reporting period, IWID carried out the activities to enhance women's participation in governance and policy making. The organization trained over 1,000 women in India on legislative procedures. it conducted a state level Women Legislative Assembly in August 2014. IWID worked systematically with other experts and activists to develop state and national level policies and bills that integrate women's voices and concerns, within the framework of the Beijing Platform for Action, CEDAW and the MDGs.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization participated in the 55th, 56th, and 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and took part in several panels and dialogues, during which it shared on the topic of land and livelihood rights of women and governance. The organization conducted a parallel event during CSW 55 to create awareness on the strategic importance of conducting a Women's Parliament — An Alternative Platform for Democracy, 28 February 2011.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

During the visit of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, IWID organized a regional consultation of civil society organizations in Chennai, South India, April 2013. Documentation of the atrocities of different marginalized groups in South India brought visibility to the intensity and magnitude of violations. Further, IWID contributed to the Alternative Country Report for the Committee of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

IWID systematically addresses the issue of land for women for food security, rural livelihood, and sustainable agriculture. During the reporting period, IWID developed a Model for Development called "SHARE Model of Farming" in several states of rural India. The model advocates sharing the labour and produce among a group of women by adopting safe and sustainable agricultural practices. IWID trained several grassroots organizations on this model. Further, IWID carried out action based participatory research by involving other organizations and developing new models of development. It developed and distributed several guide books and training modules on sustainable farming practices, development models, laws related to violence on women, and legislative procedures in different regional languages.

## 12. Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) is an international research institute conducting practical and innovative research for realising sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Linking with key stakeholders, IGES conducts policy research that reflects evolving global trends. Through strategic policy recommendations, IGES facilitates policy formulation for a low-carbon sustainable Asia-Pacific.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IGES contributed to the regional chapters of two major publications by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), namely, Global Environmental Outlook (GEO5) and Global Outlook on Sustainable Consumption and Production. The organization prepared UNEP green economy assessment reports under the Partnership for Actions on Green Economy (PAGE). IGES holds an International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific annually, supported by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and UNEP to raise awareness about regional environmental sustainability issues and share solutions.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IGES participated in the following meetings of the United Nations:

- it participated in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings annually and organized side events on major climate policy issues, promoting research outcomes;
- it organized events and delivered research results at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-22 June 2012;
- it jointly organized a workshop at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, Japan, 2014; and
- it liaised with the United Nations University (UNU) and the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Secretariat, providing resources and information on policy formulation at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, India, 2012.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

UNEP and IGES agreed to establish IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies, to be launched in 2015. IGES signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNFCCC's Secretariat to jointly develop databases, conduct research, convene regional events, and publish publications. The organization signed a MoU with UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (UNEP-DTIE) in 2013 to collaborate on resource efficiency. Finally, it signed a MoU with CBD's Secretariat to collaborate on biodiversity research.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

IGES supports the overall development agenda related to MDG 7 in Asia. IGES has contributed to global discussions on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by reviewing forms and governance of MDGs and providing policy recommendations on environmental sustainability for Rio+20 in 2012. IGES contributed to the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development through research and capacity-building.

## 13. Institute for Sustainable Development and Research

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The Institute for Sustainable Development and Research (ISDR) is a NGO working for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, Europe, North America, Africa, and Latin America regions.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

ISDR works towards sustainable development through education, training, and research on the following topics, among others: natural resources, coastal and river management and its conservation, rural and urban planning, infrastructure development, energy and greenhouse gases (GHG) issues, sanitation, industrial development, disaster mitigation and management, and climate change. ISDR also facilitates local initiatives by mobilising collective and participatory action towards self-reliance and sustainability.

**Significant changes in the organization**

During the reporting period, the organization included the Europe, Latin America and Africa regions to its programmes. ISDR also added human rights to its scope of the work. Administrative changes took place through routine general electoral processes. Finally, ISDR retained the recognition from the Government of India under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

ISDR contributed to the Global Commodities Forum organized by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Geneva, Switzerland, 31 January-1 February 2011. The ISDR also contributed to the Civil Society Forum for UNCTAD's Thirteenth Session (UNCTAD XIII) in Doha, Qatar, 17-26 April 2012, by jointly organizing a special session on "Promoting investment, trade, entrepreneurship and related development policies to foster sustained economic growth for sustainable and inclusive development: Role of Asian and European Institutions". ISDR also participated in capacity building programmes organized by United Nations bodies and other research institutions and then imparted the acquired knowledge and skills to the local community, other NGOs and Voluntary Organizations.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

During UNCTAD XIII, ISDR organized a session on development-centred globalization and interrelated issues for strengthening all forms of cooperation and partnerships for trade and development jointly with the National Institute of Technology (NIT) based in Calicut, India. The ISDR also participated in the World Investment Forum 2012, organized in partnership with Government of Qatar in conjunction with UNCTAD XIII Ministerial Conference. The ISDR also participated in the Global Commodities Forum and Multi-Year Expert Meeting on Commodities and Development, 18-21 March 2013, Geneva, Switzerland.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

During the reporting period, ISDR contributed to the United Nations Decade for Action "Water for Life" 2005-2015/UN-Water Decade Programme by organizing training programmes, conferences, seminars and advocacy programmes.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The ISDR organized a national workshop on "Research Methodology in Science, Engineering and Management" in partnership with the NIT, 26-28 September 2013, Calicut, India, that focused on the implementation of the MDGs. It also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NIT for the implementation of the MDGs. Additionally, ISDR started the initiative of electronic governance in India.

## 14. InterAction: American Council for Voluntary International Action

**General, 1995**

**Introduction**

InterAction, American Council for Voluntary International Action (InterAction) is the largest alliance of international NGOs and partners in the United States of America. It currently counts 189 members, including 6 associate members.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

InterAction's 189 members work worldwide to eliminate extreme poverty and vulnerability; strengthen human rights and citizen participation; safeguard a sustainable planet; promote peace; and ensure dignity for all people. Acting as a convener, leader, and voice of the community, InterAction enables members and partners to mobilise; enhance their impact; align common interests; build community; and promote learning and innovation.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

As a member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), InterAction has been an active participant in advancing the "transformative agenda" to improve the United Nations', NGOs', and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement's response

to humanitarian emergencies. Working closely with the Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), and World Food Programme (WFP), InterAction helped develop protocols in the three major thematic areas of the transformative agenda.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

InterAction attended many meetings of the United Nations, including the following:

- 66th-69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, 2011-2014;
- High-level Open Government Partnership Event, New York, 24 September 2014;
- "Ensuring that Environmental Sustainability is Central to Post-2015 Outcomes", 17 September 2013;
- "MDG Countdown 2012: Working Together Towards 2015", 26 September 2012;
- "Sustainable Energy for All Initiative" lunch with United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, 20 April 2012; and
- Biannual IASC Principals meeting, 2011-2014.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

InterAction collaborated regularly with UNHCR, participating in the annual NGO Consultations and side meetings in Geneva, Switzerland, as well as preparing statements for the Executive and Standing Committee meetings. InterAction and its members met regularly with UNICEF to discuss the development of strategic partnerships, the broadening of UNICEF/NGO collaboration in the field and the importance of staff safety and security. InterAction also engaged with WFP to improve their partnerships with NGOs.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

InterAction is recognized as a key representative in the efforts to advance the MDGs in the United States. InterAction presented at the Global Development Goals for the 2015-2030 consultation in Washington D.C., United States, regarding the MDGs, 29 October 2013. On 12 February 2013, InterAction launched the InterAction Post-2015 Task Force.

## 15. ISHA Foundation

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Isha Foundation is a non-profit organization headquartered at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India. For the last three decades, Isha has been propagating the science of yoga throughout the world with the objective of bringing about a holistic

development that allows individuals to realize their true potential. In addition, the Foundation has initiated a number of large-scale social, health, environmental and educational projects in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and Andhra Pradesh to uplift the rural community and restore the environment.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Isha envisions a rural population full of joy and vitality, enthusiastically involved in rejuvenating their communities. Isha's mission is to work with disadvantaged communities to improve holistic health, empower children with high quality, affordable education, and promote life in harmony with the environment.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Project GreenHands (PGH) aims at raising individual consciousness to make people realize their inevitable dependency on nature and to inspire them to plant trees. Through 130 nurseries across 28 districts of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, PGH has enabled the planting of 10.2 million saplings involving nearly 1 million people between 2011 and 2014. Nine Isha Vidhya schools enrol over 6,415 children. In addition, Isha is carrying out critical interventions in 56 rural government schools, benefiting over 34,000 students. Through its Action for Rural Rejuvenation and AYUSH projects Isha caters to the health needs of rural areas through its mobile health clinics and rural clinics that bring basic health care to remote rural areas.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

A written statement entitled "Isha Vidhya — Educating Rural India" was submitted to the Economic and Social Council's 2011 High-level Segment, addressing the Annual Ministerial Segment's theme "Implementing the Internationally Agreed Goals and Education"; 4-7 July 2011, Geneva, Switzerland.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Since 2010, Isha has been collaborating with UNICEF and the Indian Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sport to promote a central government programme (PYKKA) showcasing rural sport. Isha shared its successes in mobilizing communities to improve health and environmental awareness through sport. In 2011, Isha Vidhya partnered with the Food and Agricultural Organization's (FAO) Education for Rural People flagship programme.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Through Isha Vidhya, the Foundation contributes to MDGs 1, 2 and 3 by providing quality education to underprivileged rural children in both Isha Vidhya rural schools and adopted government schools, providing nutritious midday meals to poor children, education to girls and employment to women in the schools. The afforestation activities contribute to MDG 7.

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# Quadrennial reports for the period 2011-2014 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General***

**Addendum**

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## 1. International Association for Religious Freedom

**General, 1995**

**Introduction**

The International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF), with its headquarters in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, counts 13 national chapters and 38 active member groups across 13 countries. It has five regional bases in India (South Asia office), Japan, Europe, and the United States of America.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The association pursues programmes in accordance with Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, working toward freedom from oppressive discrimination by state or social institutions on the grounds of religion or belief, on behalf of communities suffering from religious persecution or discrimination. It undertakes programmes in the areas of human rights education in countries afflicted by religion-based intolerance and young adult leadership development.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The organization's bylaws were amended at the 2014 quadrennial General Meeting held during the 34th World Congress in the United Kingdom. Following the event, the secretariat office in Osaka, Japan, relocated to London. Investments are held in the United Kingdom.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IARF conducted 55 trainings to a total of 2,750 people in India during the reporting period. IARF led seminars and trainings on religious freedom. It organized the Quadrennial World Congress in Birmingham, United Kingdom, August 2014, themed "Challenges for Religious Freedom in the digital age", which drew 200 participants.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IARF attended the following United Nations meetings:

- 16th-28th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council (HRC);
- 15th-21st Special Session of the HRC;
- Session 6-20 of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), especially during the 1st and 2nd cycle reviews of the following countries in the UPR Processes: The Philippines, India, Pakistan, Japan, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States, Kenya, Bahrain, Macedonia, Israel, Bangladesh and Islamic Republic of Iran;
- 3rd-7th Session of the United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Geneva, Switzerland; and
- 12th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IARF cooperates closely with the Committee on Human Rights. It also acts as Secretary for the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief (CoFRoB) and is an active member of both the NGO Committee on Human Rights Education and Learning and the NGO Committee on Spirituality, Values and Global Concerns.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

No activities were specified.

## 2. International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

The International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing (IAHSA) has grown to a robust network with a presence in 30 countries. IAHSA's mission is to connect and support care, housing, and service providers worldwide to enhance the quality of life for ageing.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

IAHSA's goals are to advance quality of services; exchange knowledge, support, and ideas; provide education and training; support leadership development and promote innovation; grow applied research and its relevance to policy and practice; engage with international bodies to advance a commitment to address the opportunities and challenges of an ageing society; and advance the development and adoption of technologies.

**Significant changes in the organization**

IAHSA has added a chapter in China, IAHSA-China. IAHSA enhanced its strategies with a focus on applied research with an aim of creating an evidence-base through research that will inform policy and practice.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IAHSA is an active member of the NGO Committee on Ageing. It supports the work of the United Nations as it explores not only the issues of ageing, but also of families, women, and health. IAHSA regularly reports the work of the United Nations via its newsletter and website. It strongly encouraged its network to contribute to the World We Want campaign.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IAHS participates regularly in meetings of the NGO Committee on Ageing. It has submitted both oral and written statements comments to the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG) Sessions, advocating for the interests of the elderly throughout the world.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IAHSA has worked with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

As ageing was not explicitly included in the MDGs, IASHA's focus has been on advocating for its inclusion in the SDGs. It has submitted comments and worked closely with the NGO Committee to that end.

## 3. International Association of Soldiers for Peace

**General, 1995**

**Introduction**

The Soldiers of Peace International Association (SPIA) was created in 1988 in France. The organization gathers civilians and soldiers who have carried out Peacekeeping Operations under the United Nations since 1948.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization operates in mine-related emergency and humanitarian development. The organization's deminers and personal remain at the disposal of the United Nations and have served in different operations. Some members of the association also offer their services in other areas of mine action such as mine-free and explosive remnants of war, related advocacy, victim assistance, and mine risk education.

**Significant changes in the organization**

SPIA created new offices in Mongolia, Poland, Slovakia, and Czech Republic.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

SPIA participated in demining activities. It signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in 2013. In 2013, it also organized the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, and at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France. Further, every year, SPIA participates in the Graduate Study Programme at the United Nations Offices in Geneva. Finally, in 2013, it created a decoration called "Grand-Croix de la Commémorative de la Paix" for people who took part in the peace culture, especially Heads of States.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization participated in the following meetings, among others:

- Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW);
- Annual Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons;

- Intersessional Work Programme, Meetings of the Standing Committees of the anti-personal Mine Ban Convention, Geneva;
- Intersessional Meeting of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM); and
- Participation in the Human Rights sessions, Geneva.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

SPIA collaborated with the United Nations Office at Geneva (ONUG). It cooperated with UNMAS in the context of the CCW. Finally, it signed a Protocol Agreement with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) on the International Peace Academy.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The association undertook humanitarian actions and donated material and medical consumables to hospitals in Togo and Somalia. Additionally, in every country where SPIA is present, it ensured that the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers or the Day of Memory for soldiers dead in operation was celebrated every year.

## 4. International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

Founded in 1996, the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) is an independent non-profit organization based in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

ICTSD works to advance sustainable development through trade-related policymaking at the global level. ICTSD advances its mission through three main types of activities: non-partisan reporting and analysis, policy dialogue, and research and analysis.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

ICTSD works to build well-informed communities, support policy-focused dialogue, and empower stakeholders to act effectively on issues in the trade policy arena that impact national and global sustainable development.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

ICTSD substantively participated in over a hundred United Nations meetings. Examples of participation in recurring fora include:

- ICTSD side events at each annual United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP), Durban, South Africa, 2011; Doha, Qatar, 2012; Warsaw, Poland, 2013; and Lima, Peru, 2014;
- ICTSD "Trade and Climate Change Day" side events and formal submissions at each June session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies in Bonn, Germany; and
- Participation and/or side events at the regular World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) committee meetings as well as at the WIPO General Assembly.

In addition, ICTSD has participated in numerous events convened by other United Nations agencies, including among others: the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and World Health Organization (WHO).

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ICTSD has jointly convened many events with United Nations agencies during the reporting period, including with FAO, UNCTAD, and WHO. It also collaborated on joint publications with FAO, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Trade Center (ITC), and UNCTAD.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

ICTSD works to further the development of an open, rules-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system toward MDG 8. It addresses the special needs of least developed countries, landlocked countries, and small-island developing states through initiatives that include legal capacity building, protection of traditional knowledge, trade facilitation, and the development of more equitable markets. ICTSD works to ensure environmental sustainability through initiatives on sustainable energy, environmental goods and services, and climate mitigation and adaptation. ICTSD works toward MDG 1 with initiatives on food security and reducing distortions in agricultural markets.

## 5. International Chamber of Shipping

**Special, 1971**

**Introduction**

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) is the principal global trade association for international ship-owners. ICS represents all sectors and trades and covers over 80% of the world merchant fleet.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The aim of ICS is to promote the interests of ship-owners and operators in all matters of shipping policy and ship operations.

**Significant changes in the organization**

In 2012, the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the International Shipping Federation (ISF) were merged to form the same organization. However, ICS continues to use the identity of ISF when representing the industry at the International Labour Organization (ILO).

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

ICS participates in every committee meeting of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), as well as meetings of other United Nations organizations, as listed in the section below.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

ICS representatives participated in, and where relevant submitted papers to, the following sessions of the parent Committees of IMO in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

- Maritime Safety Committee's 89th-93rd Session; 11-20 May 2011; 16-25 May 2012; 26-30 November 2012; 12-21 June 2013; 14-23 May 2014;
- Marine Environment Protection Committee's 62nd-67th Session; 11-15 July 2011; 27 February-2 March 2012; 1-5 October 2012; 13-17 May 2013; 31 March-4 April 2014; 13-17 October 2014;
- Legal Committee's 98th-101st Session; 4-8 April 2011; 16-20 April 2012; 15-19 April 2013; 28 April-2 May 2014;
- Facilitation Committee's 37th-39th Session; 5-9 September 2011; 8-12 April 2013; and 22-26 September 2014.

ICS has also attended all meetings of the IMO Assembly and Council during the reporting period. ICS (as ISF) coordinates the view of maritime employers in ILO tripartite discussions and has attended ILO meetings in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ICS is currently conducting an ongoing campaign to promote the ratification by governments of certain international maritime instruments, including certain IMO and ILO instruments. ICS produces publications for shipping companies, including best practice guides and guidelines on the implementation of international regulations, many of which refer to and promote IMO and ILO Conventions.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

ICS engages in discussions regarding the development of further environmental measures, including reducing CO2 emissions from shipping, toward MDG 7. It also promotes free and open access to global shipping markets and regularly lobbies against individual countries' protectionist measures that may result in market distortion, toward MDG 8.

## 6. International Electrotechnical Commission

**Special, 1979**

**Introduction**

Founded in 1906, the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is the world organization that prepares and publishes international standards for all electrical, electronic, and related technologies.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The IEC works to enable global cooperation and the effective participation of all countries in global trade in electrotechnology; enable broad, safe, and sustainable energy access off-grid and on-grid; increase the safety and efficiency of individual electric and electronic devices as well as infrastructure systems; and increase the safety of explosive areas.

**Significant changes in the organization**

IEC expanded its membership to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Moldova. Its Affiliate Country Programme's participation increased to 83 countries with the addition of Azerbaijan, South Sudan, and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IEC operates a free Affiliate Country Programme for developing countries to encourage understanding and participation in standardization and the verification of conformity in electrotechnical devices and systems. IEC also works hand in hand with Sustainable Energy for All (UNSE4ALL) to promote universal energy access.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IEC regularly attends World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee meetings as an observer and produces a report on its activities. IEC actively contributes to WTO Thematic Course on TBT and regularly participates in WTO regional workshops. The organization participated as an observer in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Working Party 6 on regulatory cooperation and standardization policies.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IEC liaises with the following United Nations agencies directly or through its Technical Committee: The International Telecommunications Union (ITU), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), and International Maritime Organization (IMO), among others. IEC regularly collaborates with UNECE. Further, IEC reported at WTO TBT Committee (3 times a year) and received WTO delegations at IEC's central office.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

IEC's work supports universal access to sustainable energy. In this context, IEC is a partner of the UNSE4ALL programme and facilitates access to photovoltaic standards for developing countries. Reliable energy access both grid-connected and off-grid contributes in many ways to multiple MDGs, including poverty reduction, empowering women, better access to education, improved health and food safety.

## 7. International Harm Reduction Association

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA) is a leading NGO working internationally to promote and expand support for harm reduction.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

IHRA works to reduce drug related harms by promoting evidence based public health policy and practices and human rights based approaches to drug policy through an integrated programme of research, analysis, advocacy, and civil society strengthening.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IHRA's work contributes to the objectives of the United Nations in the areas of HIV and human rights, in particular through its work on issues such as harm reduction progress, financial support for harm reduction, and drug users' human rights.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IHRA participated in the following meetings:

- United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Vienna, Austria, March 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014;
- High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, New York, June 2011;
- Human Rights Council, Geneva, Switzerland, September 2011, and delivered a statement;
- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) expert meeting on HIV in prisons in Vienna, October 2014; and
- The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Coordinating Board Meeting, Geneva, December 2014 and delivered a statement.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IHRA regularly cooperates with United Nations bodies on activities relevant to its mandate. This includes regular collaboration with UNODC, World Health Organization (WHO), and UNAIDS in providing input and external review on a range of reports and other documents. IHRA was also a member of the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs, UNODC's Drugs Civil Society Advisory Group, and the Strategic Advisory Group to the United Nations on Injecting Drug Use and HIV.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

IHRA supported MDG 6 on HIV, through the following activities:

- The monitoring of the global scale up of harm reduction services via its Global State of Harm Reduction Reports in 2012 and 2014;
- The monitoring of global financial support for harm reduction services since 2010; and
- The promotion of human rights-based drug policies and ending human rights violations against drug users.

## 8. International Peacebuilding Alliance

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

International Peacebuilding Alliance (Interpeace) is an international peacebuilding organization headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, with offices in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire; Brussels, Belgium; Guatemala City, Guatemala; Nairobi, Kenya; New York, United States of America; and Stockholm, Sweden. Interpeace supports peacebuilding efforts in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Interpeace's works to assist local and national actors and the international community in responding more effectively to the challenges of preventing and overcoming conflict and rebuilding after war. Interpeace fosters inclusive political processes by ensuring the meaningful participation of critical and marginalized stakeholders through strategies and mechanisms that are adapted to each context.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Interpeace engages with and contributes to United Nations peacebuilding efforts. Through its International Peacebuilding Advisory Team, Interpeace provides direct advisory support to the United Nations in various countries and at the headquarters level.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Through its presence in Geneva, New York, and Nairobi, Interpeace regularly participates in informal or formal meetings and contributes to policy debates on peacebuilding. For instance, Interpeace was requested to provide input to the high-level panel of experts in the framework of the review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Interpeace collaborates with several United Nations agencies both at the headquarters and field level. Interpeace and its Malian partner, the Malian Institute of Research and Action for Peace (IMRAP) have engaged with the United Nations Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and shared findings of the nation-wide consultation process that led to identify the main obstacles to peace. In addition, Interpeace participated in a retreat of United Nations Special Representatives and facilitated a workshop on the challenges of operating in a conflict-affected environment.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

By helping war-torn societies identify ways to address deep causes of conflict, Interpeace helps to pave the way towards sustainable development in fragile societies.

## 9. International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association

**Special, 1975**

**Introduction**

International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) is the global oil and gas industry association for environmental and social issues.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

IPIECA works toward an oil and gas industry that successfully improves its operations and products to meet society's expectations for environmental and social performance.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IPIECA organized joint workshops with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in Malaysia and Bahrain and 25 national and regional events in Africa in 2011 and 2012. IPIECA was closely engaged in the IMO Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation Technical Group meetings, held at IMO headquarters, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Additionally, IPIECA also developed good practice documents that are widely used as reference manuals for the industry.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IPIECA attended many meetings during the reporting period, including the following:

- Second, third, fourth and fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury, Chiba, Japan, 24-28 January 2011; Nairobi, Kenya, 30 October-4 November 2011; Punta del Este, Uruguay, 27 June-2 July 2012; Geneva, Switzerland, 13-18 January 2013;
- 21st Session of the United Nations Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (UNSCEGHS), 27-29 June 2011; and
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) Proteus Partnership meetings, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IPIECA worked actively with the IMO, World Health Organization (WHO), UNEP, and UNSCEGHS among others. IPIECA worked with UNEP and WCMC to develop "A-Z areas of biodiversity importance". It attended UNEP's governing council meetings. It also attended the re-launch of UNEP's Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV) in October 2012, London, and contributed to the discussions.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Access to affordable and reliable energy services is fundamental to reducing poverty and improving health, increasing productivity, enhancing competitiveness, and promoting economic growth.

## 10. International Social Security Association

**General, 1979**

**Introduction**

The International Social Security Association (ISSA) is a globally recognized authoritative body that issues professional standards in social security administrations. Founded in 1927 under the auspices of the International Labour Organization (ILO), ISSA counts more than 340 member organizations in over 160 countries.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

ISSA promotes excellence in social security administration through professional guidelines, expert knowledge, services, and support to enable its

members to develop dynamic social security systems and policy throughout the world.

**Significant changes in the organization**

During the triennium 2011-2013, ISSA strengthened its role to become a provider of practical knowledge and impact-oriented tailored services of direct relevance to the mandates of member institutions.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Well-governed, performing, and trusted social security administrations contribute to individuals', societies' and economic advancement.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

ISSA participated in the meetings of the ILO and other agencies related to social security and social protection, and is a member of the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ISSA works in partnership with other United Nations agencies and international organizations active in the field of social security, particularly the ILO. ISSA supports the objectives of the ILO and is committed to promoting the body of ILO instruments, in particular in the field of social security.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

ISSA has actively contributed to the work of the ILO in support of the MDGs and the new SDGs. It has supported the inclusion of social security and social protection targets in the SDGs.

## 11. International Tunnelling Association

**Special, 1987**

**Introduction**

The "International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association" (ITA) was created in 1974 as a federation of Member States, gathering currently 73 Member States.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The main goals of ITA are to increase the awareness of the public and decision makers on the unique benefits of the underground, especially social and environmental; manage and minimise risk and assure safety and security in all tunnelling activities; and embrace sustainable development.

**Significant changes in the organization**

ITA created the Committee on new technologies (ITAtech) in 2011 and a Young Members Group in 2013. 13 new Member States joined ITA during the reporting period.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

ITA participated in the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's (UNISDR) Urban Planning Group and Global Platform Meeting in 2012. ITA also became a partner of the resilient cities campaign. ITA participated to side events during the Council of Governors of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in Nairobi, Kenya, 2012, and has been involved in an UN-Habitat Expert Group on urban drainage. Since 2013, ITA, through its Committee Itacus, is deeply involved in the Expert Group on drainage. In 2014, Itacus also organized a side event and a training session during the World Urban Forum (WUF) in Medellin, Colombia.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

ITA attended the Climate Summit held in New York in September 2014. In June 2014, Itacus attended a meeting with UNISDR during which the Terms of Reference for the Urban Planning Advisory Group (UPAG) were finalised. ITA participated in two preparatory committee sessions, held in July and November 2014, for the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Sendai, Japan, in March 2015.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ITA collaborates closely with UN-Habitat and UNISDR. Itacus is Vice Chair of UNISDR's Urban Planning Advisory Group. Also, a Memorandum of Understanding with UN-Habitat was signed in 2012 and extended in 2014.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

In 2014, ITA participated in several workshops to contribute to the awareness about the use of underground space to cope with climate changes especially in mega cities. ITA, through its Committee Itacus, issued several videos to show how the use of underground space contributes to the MDGs. ITA delivered several conferences on "underground space use and MDGs" notably in Thailand, Myanmar, and the United Arab Emirates.

## 12. International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

Established in 1926, the International Union for Land Value Taxation is an international organization open to all, governed by a 15-member Executive Council.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization seeks to address wealth inequality and harmonize individual freedom with rights to the commons by reducing taxes on labour and production while collecting the unearned income — the "economic rent" — of land, natural resources and other nature and community created values.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization reports on United Nations proceedings. The organization's major contribution is to present detailed, equitable, and practical finance mechanisms that can raise funds to pay for United Nations policy implementation goals. It wrote and distributed papers during United Nations meeting, including the following: "Commons Rent Public Finance for Climate Mitigation and Sustainable Development"; "Commons Rent/Land Value Tax Policy for Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements"; and "The Human Right to the Earth".

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

From February 2011 to June 2012, the organization attended discussions on and revision of the final document for approval during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in June 2012. It also visited missions in South America to address the urgency of raising awareness on environmental protection, pointing out the significance of the term "Mother Earth". Nation State representatives were approached to request their support of the view that "the earth belongs to everyone" and the best way to share the earth was to support financial policies that will remove the tax burden on labor and products and instead to collect the "commons rent" (an "unearned income" or "surplus value") that accrues to the gifts of nature — land and natural resources.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization cooperated with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the Global Land Tools Network by participating in several of their events and meetings. It followed closely the Financing for Development process and has given a considerable amount of input to the Post-2015 negotiations.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization has developed a number of documents for Land Value Taxation Policy Implementation Projects. These policies were called for in the founding documents of UN-Habitat. The organization tracks progress regarding land value tax policy on its website.

## 13. International Union of Latin Notaries

**Special, 1979**

**Introduction**

L'Union Internationale du Notariat (UINL) is an international non-governmental organization. Founded in 1948, the institution now comprises 86 notaries.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The institution's goal is to promote, coordinate and develop the activities and function performed by notaries all over the world. It seeks to safeguard the dignity and independence of the profession so that it can better serve individuals and society as a whole. Its objectives are to support actions in the best interests of society (titling); partner with international organizations; facilitate the circulation of notarial deeds; develop a global network of notaries; and advance professional training.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In partnership with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), UINL helps developing countries acquire modern land titling systems. Together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the notaries helped draft the international voluntary guidelines on the governance of tenure and assist with the preparation of benchmark provisions for stakeholders in that field. With the International Law Commission (ILC), the notaries promoted legally secured and equitable access to land and land rights for the poor. In partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the notaries contribute their expertise to the work of international civil servants.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

On 14 March 2012, UINL delivered an oral statement at the 19th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland and, in March 2013 and 2014, it attended that Council's 22nd and 25th sessions. It organized a conference on women's rights with the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO) and the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), in Geneva, on 25 May 2012. In November 2014, it contacted the Secretary of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to offer its cooperation with implementation of the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The UINL is in constant contact with the United Nations Office at New York, Geneva and Vienna, Austria, as well as with the CoNGO and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

No initiatives were specified.

## 14. Jana Utthan Pratisthan

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Jana Utthan Pratisthan (JUP-Nepal) is a non-partisan NGO that undertakes studies and research on subjects and issues of national and transnational nature and dimensions.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

JUP-Nepal's mission is to eliminate caste based discrimination and untouchability in order to promote and protect human rights of the Dalit community and support its political and socioeconomic empowerment. JUP-Nepal's strategy covers five core areas: human rights, advocacy and networking, social and economic development, research and publications, and education.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

JUP-Nepal created an international solidarity movement for Nepalese Dalit human rights, especially with the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), Economic and Social Council, Human Rights Council, Universal Periodic Review (UPR). It took actions to reduce poverty among Dalits and other marginalized communities in Mahottari district, Nepal. It established a Media Network at the District level on discriminatory issues. It conducted research, study, and assessments on different themes and published related reports and books.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization actively participated in Nepal's first UPR in 2011. It also participated in the United Nations Department of Information (DPI)/NGO Conference on 26-30 August 2014, New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

JUP-Nepal worked closely with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Nepal. It raised the issue of Dalit rights in Nepal's new constitution and the rights of youth and adolescents related to education and MDGs. JUP-Nepal supported the UNDP Participatory Constitution Building Nepal Programme (SPCBN). UNESCO also supported the organization with regards to constitution building and youth and adolescents.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

JUP-Nepal took part in discussions on poverty alleviation with civil society and government bodies in Nepal.

## 15. Japan Civil Liberties Union

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

The Japan Civil Liberties Union (JCLU) is an independent non-profit organization working for the protection of human rights. It was founded in 1947, with its headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. JCLU counts approximately 500 members, including lawyers, scholars, journalists, and students.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

JCLU's goal is to protect and promote human rights for all persons regardless of beliefs, religion or political opinion.

**Significant changes in the organization**

As of 1 April 2013, the JCLU was authorized as an incorporated public interest association by the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan, thereby changing the status of its organization.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

JCLU members monitor United Nations human rights activities and submit reports to United Nations related bodies. JCLU has submitted the following alternative reports in cooperation with other NGOs:

- Japan's Universal Periodic Review, October 2012;
- Review of the 3rd periodic report of Japan submitted to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), May 2013;
- Review of the 6th Periodic Report of Japan submitted to the Human Rights Committee, July 2014; and
- Review of the 7th to 9th periodic report of Japan submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), August, 2014. JCLU, together with other NGOs, pointed out issues involving the exclusion of Korean schools from the High School Tuition Support Fund, resulting in the CERD expressing its concern about this issue.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

JCLU was present at the 111th Session of the Human Rights Committee held in Geneva, Switzerland, 7-25 July 2014, where the periodic report of Japan was considered.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

JCLU has been a member of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Committee since January 2008. On October 19, 2014, JCLU held a symposium on racial discrimination in Japan, including hate speech.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

JCLU formulated corporate social responsibility (CSR) guidelines to guide Japanese corporations in their efforts to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all. In relation to MDG 3, JCLU supported litigation concerning the demotion of a woman employee based on childcare leave. The plaintiff won the case at the Tokyo High Court on November 2011.

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## Quadrennial reports for the period 2011-2014 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General***

**Addendum**

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## 1. Groupement d'appui aux initiatives économiques des femmes

**Special: 1999**

**Introduction**

The Groupement d'Appui aux Initiatives Economiques des Femmes (GAIE/FEMMES) was created in 1992. It is dedicated to promoting women, gender equality, and the protection of the physical and moral integrity of women and children in Mali.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The goals of the organization are to promote women's and children's socioeconomic development through research and participation in the study of women's activities and of their sociocultural environment; building good will for supporting, valuing and carrying out collective or individual initiatives to promote women; and combating all forms of injustice toward women and children.

**Significant changes in the organization**

No changes to report.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

During the 2011-2014 period, the organization implemented and ensured follow-up for the following projects in Mali:

- Building a six-grade school in Kawerla. This project has had a very positive impact, with more than 80 per cent of girls attending the school;
- Training the women of Dougouwolonfila in poultry science;
- Training in livestock fattening techniques for women in the Banamba circle and in Kawerla, enabling increased revenue, improved food supply for the population, and reduced incidence of ovine diseases;
- Education of girls in need in Garibougoufié; and
- Evaluation of use of the Sabalibougou health centre.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

No information provided.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

GAIE/FEMMES has cooperated in particular with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), and numerous non-governmental organizations in the fields of combating desertification and preparing the post-2015 development agenda.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

GAIE/FEMMES has taken part in numerous training seminars in the following areas:

- Adaptation of poultry production systems in the context of climate change;
- Knowledge of cooperative mechanisms at the sub-regional, regional and international levels;
- Participation of women in civil society and in the 2013-2014 elections; and
- Awareness-building and follow-up on child victims of trafficking.

## 2. International Forum for Child Welfare

**Special, 1995**

**Introduction**

Created in 1989, the International Forum for Child Welfare (IFCW) is an international NGO dedicated to the promotion of the rights and well-being of children globally.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The IFCW's goal is to assist member organizations in delivering services to children, young people and their families in their own particular area of work through capacity building. It functions largely as a virtual organization, capitalizing on modern methods of communication to reach child welfare organizations worldwide.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) informs the work of the organization. The organization convenes the IFCW WorldForum regularly, during which established and emerging national non-governmental child welfare organizations mutually share current successes and challenges and receive technical assistance from each other to strengthen and enable each NGO to better implement the UNCRC in its own country, culture and society.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

No participation was specified.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The IFCW provides testimonies on issues of international child welfare. On 17 October 2013, the IFCW and the Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc. (CHCF) cosponsored a panel discussion and forum on the neglected rights and welfare of migrant children and youth. Expert panellists discussed causes of child

migration; the conditions that contribute to human trafficking of children; the emotional and psychological consequences for these children; and the responsibilities of governments, international organizations, community-based organizations and NGO's for creating solutions to these crises.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The IFCW works with member organizations to enhance their capacity to meet the MDGs.

## 3. Kadin Adaylari Destekleme ve Eğitme Derneği

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

Association for Support of Women Candidates (KA.DER) is a Turkish organization that defends equal representation of women and men in all fields of life, as a precondition of democracy.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

KA.DER aims to raise awareness on equality between women and men to counter male domination in social and political life; eliminate economic, social, cultural and legal obstacles faced by women politicians; empower women in general, to encourage them to become visible in their fields of work; strengthen cooperation and collaboration among women in political parties; and carry out lobbying, advocacy, campaigning, organizing, solidarity and training activities.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

From 2013 to 2014, the European Union funded KA.DER to carry out the Project "Empowerment of Women Activists and Women Citizens as Voters and Active Citizens", which aimed to improve the capacity of women who are active in local civil society organizations.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

No participation was specified.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

No cooperation was specified.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

KA.DER conducted the following initiatives:

- Empowerment of over 500 women and preparation for their candidature through KA.DER's political schools;
- Direct lobby, advocacy, and training in order to transform the male dominated political parties to women friendly parties;
- Election campaigns, both during general and local elections, in order to pressurise political parties to include women candidates, and enhance public awareness towards gender equality; and
- Submission of proposals and amendments on the constitution, election laws, and other acts through committees, platforms and direct meetings with politicians.

## 4. Karamah: Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

KARAMAH: Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights (KARAMAH) envisions a world in which all human beings, regardless of gender or other differences, enjoy their God-given right of dignity.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

KARAMAH is committed to promote human rights globally, especially gender equity, religious freedom and civil rights in the United States of America. It pursues its mission through education, legal outreach and advocacy.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

During the reporting period, KARAMAH:

- Hosted a panel discussion at the United Nations Church Centre in New York, on 1 March 2011, to coincide with the 56th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). This event explored how Islamic economic models have empowered Muslim women to lead efforts for development and the elimination of poverty and hunger;
- Raised awareness about women's rights and Islam among the diplomatic and civil society communities at the United Nations;
- Provided a platform on women's rights and Islam about women's access to education to facilitate financial empowerment, and the Prophet Muhammad's positive position on women's intellectual and professional pursuits; and
- Presented a workshop during the 58th Session of CSW on 10 March 2014 that presented a case study on the Belgian situation about the "headscarf ban" in Flemish public.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

No participation was specified.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

No cooperation was specified.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

KARAMAH supports MDG 3, as it has worked to develop intensive and innovative educational programmes that provide Muslim women with the tools and skills they need to become dynamic leaders in their communities. These training programmes range from short one to three-day workshops, to a three-week Law and Leadership Summer Program (LLSP). LLSP allows participants to better understand and advocate for gender-equitable rights within the context of their religion and respective communities. It increases their confidence and ability to lead themselves and their peers and allows them to understand how to approach situations that may cause tension or conflict.

## 5. Kurdistan Reconstruction and Development Society

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The Kurdistan Reconstruction and Development Society (KURDS) is an independent humanitarian organization based in Dohuk Governorate, in Kurdistan Region, Republic o Iraq. It focuses its reconstruction and development efforts in all three governorates of the region administered by the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG).

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

KURDS's overarching aim is to address the reconstruction and development needs of the Kurdistan Region following natural or man-made disaster or conflict.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

KURDS has contributed to the work of the United Nations through vocational training courses; projects related to response to the urgent needs of refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs); construction of camp infrastructure and rehabilitation of non-camp infrastructure; and prioritisation of the employment of IDPs and refugees population (mostly as unskilled labours) and local Kurdish population by providing large number of short and long term employment opportunities.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization attended the United Nations Cluster Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP), 2013, Amman, Jordan, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Annual Consultation Meeting, in relation to the planning of the 2015 IDPs and Refugees program in Iraq, 17-19 June 2014, Geneva, Switzerland. It also participated in the United Nations Cluster Strategic Planning Conference for the response to IDPs and Refugees in the Kurdistan Region, 2014.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

During the reporting period, KURDS has implemented the following projects in Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaimaniyah Governorates, Republic of Iraq:

- Infrastructure construction and maintenance of 8 refugee camps (2012-2014), with UNHCR;
- Implementation of the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) water projects, and a hygiene education programme in refugee and IDP camps in local communities (2013-2014); and
- Implementation of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) funded income generation project for habitants of Baharke and Domiz IDP camps (2014).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

KURDS supported the following MDGs:

- MDG 1: KURDS has employed 8,000 people (2011-2014);
- MDG 2, through the construction of one school in the Arbad refugee camps and the rehabilitation of 33 schools in Dohuk, Erbil Governorates;
- MDG 3, by reaching 2,451 indirect beneficiaries (e.g. other family members) through its awareness programmes; and
- MDG 7, through the provision of safe potable water to 61,331 families.

## 6. Lassalle-Institut

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

Founded in 1995, Lassalle Institut (LI) is an important institution in the field of Zen, Ethics, and leadership. It is aimed toward decision makers in business, politics, and other sectors of society with an emphasis on an ethics rooted in holistic awareness.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Through seminars, lectures, coaching, research and courses, the Lassalle Institute promotes ethical values supported culture and social development.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Workshops and expert meeting on cross border cooperation were organized as part of the Jerusalem Project from 2011 to 2013. As a result, the Networking for Urban Development for Palestine in East Jerusalem, State of Palestine, was supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). LI held its 2nd Annual International Conference: "Jerusalem — Open City for Learning World Peace", attended by politicians and representatives from Israel and Europe, LI. Interfaith, intercultural workshops were held yearly in Jerusalem, State of Palestine, for residents of Jerusalem and environment, 12-14 November 2012.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization attended the following meetings:

- The 33rd Session of the General Assembly Committee on Information, New York, 28 April-3 May 2011;
- Various meetings and workshops in relation to course "GEIST and Leadership" of the Lassalle-Institute, 27 May-1 June 2012, United Nations, New York; and
- Various meetings and networking with United Nations agencies and national representatives in relation to course "Zen and Profession" of the Lassalle-Institute, 14-19 April 2013 and 4 April 2014, United Nations, New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

During the reported period, LI cooperated with the United Nations through the project "Cross-Border Cooperation: an Israeli-Palestinian Project", which aims to advance a culture of peace in Jerusalem. Activities included an experts' workshop at the Europe Institute University of Basel, Switzerland, in March 2011, 2012 and 2013. In November 2012, LI held the Israeli-Palestinian-European Conference in Jerusalem.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

With its project "The Future Leaders Forum", LI sensitized and empowered young potential leaders from several different countries for the solution of global issues, while stressing the importance of global governance and the United Nations, Bad Schönbrunn, Switzerland, 2011-2012. LI supported global principles and the United Nations Charter through several meetings during the reporting period with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change representatives of East Jerusalem, State of Palestine, UNDP Members, and the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs in Jerusalem, State of Palestine, and Doha, Qatar.

## 7. Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund (LCCREF) seeks to build public understanding in the United States of America so that the country can meet its highest ideals. The organization promotes public awareness of contemporary civil and human rights and encourages appreciation for the diversity of its people.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

LCCREF serves as an information clearinghouse on civil rights issues in the United States. It monitors the federal government's enforcement of civil rights laws, Supreme Court decisions, and legislative initiatives, monitors United States compliance with its international human rights treaty obligations, and develops materials for the media and the public. The organization sponsors conferences and symposia and organizes civil rights education campaigns.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

LCCREF has publicly supported the engagement by the United States with the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC). The organization has also worked to make the American public more aware of the benefits and importance of ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended the following meetings:

- The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the United States, HRC, November 2010, Geneva, Switzerland;
- The review of the 4th periodic report of the United States by the Human Rights Committee on its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), March 2014, Geneva, Switzerland;
- The 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), March 2014, New York;
- Side events organized by the NGO Committee on the Status of Women on a new initiative in the United States known as "Cities for CEDAW", March 2014, New York; and
- The review of the United States during the 85th session of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) August 2014, Geneva, Switzerland.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization has developed substantive reports on the implementation by the United States of its human rights obligations, including pursuant to ratified treaties, and have distributed them widely to Member States.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

No activities were specified.

## 8. Mission International Rescue Foundation

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Mission International Rescue (MIR) was created to assist underserved children and families in the Dominican Republic, with a main focus on education.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The purpose of the organization is to provide educational services to needy children and adults in the South Eastern region of the Dominican Republic. MIR carries out this aim by offering vocational trainings in culinary arts, bookkeeping, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering and refrigeration. These programmes allow them to find employment shortly after high school graduation.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization works toward the realisation of the MDGs by providing children with the education they need to succeed.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

No participation was specified.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization has been in contact with the United Nations Foundation to potentially organize a summit in the Dominican Republic.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

MIR believes that its programmes and trainings are helping to eradicate poverty by increasing the amount of children accepted in its schools each year. The organization continues to host fundraisers. The contributions received are used to build more classrooms and hire more teachers.

## 9. Muslim World League

**General, 1979**

**Introduction**

The Muslim World League (MWL) was established in Saudi Arabia in 1964 in order to engage in interfaith dialogue, counter religious extremism, promote human rights, eradicate illiteracy, and help the needy around the world.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

To achieve its objectives, the MWL organizes international conferences and seminars, including: Interfaith conference, 2011, Taiwan, Province of China; Human rights Conference, 2013, Makkah, Saudi Arabia; Seminar on Education, 2013, Sydney, Australia. It also hosts specialised organizations working on crucial projects, including The International Islamic Relief Organization (IIRO), which has provided help in more than 55 countries including the major distressed regions of the world like the Syrian Arab Republic, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sudan, Republic of Iraq, Albania, and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, among others.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

MWL contributed by itself and through its subsidiaries to the following activities:

- Physicians Across Continents (PAC) organized special educational programmes in August 2015 for 42,000 Syrian orphans, and provided medical care to more than 750000 patients free of cost in more than 20 countries;
- MWL helped drill more than 2,974 wells around the world in 2012, distributed 931.5 tons of rice and 810 tons of wheat helping more than 40,500 families in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and
- MWL successfully carried out 24 relief projects in 11 countries and helped 304,417 people.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended:

- The 70th session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), 4-8 August 2014, Bangkok, Thailand; and
- The 5th Session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, 30 July-1 August 2014, New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

No cooperation was specified.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The MWL contributed to MDGs 1, 2, 3 and 8 by:

- Taking care of more than 89,000 orphans;
- Operating and supporting through its affiliated organizations 54 educational institutions and programs that benefit 56,125 students in 34 countries;
- Launching a project entitled "Female Entrepreneurs" to empower women in the society; and
- Carrying out 9 human development projects in 8 countries that have benefited to 456,000 people.

## 10. National Association of Community Legal Centres

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC) gathers community legal centres (CLCs) in Australia. Its members are the state and territory associations of CLCs that represent over 200 centres across Australia. CLCs provide legal advice and services to vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the community, as well as undertaking matters in the public interest.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

NACLC's aim is to achieve rights, fairness and equality for Australian communities.

**Significant changes in the organization**

NACLC transitioned from an Incorporated Association to a Company Limited by Guarantee, with a Board and Advisory Council. It retains its registration as a charity.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

NACLC contributes both directly and through the work of CLCs across Australia through:

- Research, submissions and contribution to policy development, in order to protect and promote the human rights of disadvantaged people, and ensure Australia's compliance with international human rights obligations;
- Direct casework seeking to protect and uphold the legal rights of disadvantaged people;
- Coordination of civil society engagement, preliminary consultations and workshops during the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Australia; and
- Provision of feedback to the Australian Government on reports including Australia's combined 18th-20th reports under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended the following meetings:

- The 56th, 57th, and 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 2012-2014, New York;
- The 4th, 5th and 6th Session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing, 2013-2015, New York; and
- United Nations Department for Social and Economic Affairs (DESA)/United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific (ESCAP) workshop on the Social Integration and the Rights of Older Persons in the Asia-Pacific region, 30 September-2 October 2014, Bangkok, Thailand.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

NACLC engaged with the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women study tour, by providing information on legal responses to violence against women, April 2012. It coordinated a submission to the Human Rights Committee Prior to Reporting for the Sixth Periodic Report of Australia, August 2012. It engaged with the Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) public consultation on the rights of older persons, 2013. It provided information to the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women about changes to victims' compensation laws and engaged on freedom of expression, and Situation of Human Rights Defenders on proposed anti-protest laws in Tasmania, Australia.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization supported the following goals:

- MDG 1, through submissions, advocacy and direct casework by CLCs addressing discrimination against women and people with disability;
- MDG 3, by supporting work of Women's Legal Services across Australia and engagement through CSW; and
- MDG 7, by supporting the work of Environmental Defenders Offices.

## 11. Network Movement for Justice and Development

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD) is a human rights advocacy organization established in 1988 in Kenema, Sierra Leone. NMJD operates in all regions of the country, with functioning offices in six districts.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

NMJD aims to create a just and self-reliant society in Sierra Leone, where individuals and communities live in dignity without fear and discrimination, towards sex, race, faith, socioeconomic and political status. The organization advocates and strengthens the capacity of civil society organizations to engage individuals, communities, government and other actors for the transformation of society.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

During the reporting period, NMJD:

- Trained paralegals, including on the Three Gender Acts of 2012, in order to promote and protect human rights in local communities;
- Facilitated periodic Accountability Forums in operational chiefdoms in Bo and Pujehun districts, Sierra Leone;
- Worked with the National Elections Watch to monitor all electoral processes in the country;
- Contributed to the fight against the Ebola virus; and
- Organized a National Civil Society Forum to discuss and develop strategies for effective public interest activism.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended the following meetings:

- The workshop organized by the African Union and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), 9-10 December 2011, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
- The 2nd "African Union Conference of Ministers Responsible for Mineral Resource Development" of the African Union Commission and UNECA, 12-16 December 2011, Addis Ababa; and
- The High-level Civil Society Seminar on Peace and Stability organized by United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA) on 26-28 March 2012, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

NMJD received a two-year grant from the United Nations Democracy Fund to strengthen the capacity of civil society in Sierra Leone. NMJD is a member of the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Civil Society Consultative Forum on human rights, rule of law and development issues in Sierra Leone. It also partners with the United Nations agencies to fight to the Ebola virus.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization supported the MDGs by:

- Organizing School Monitoring and Advocacy Teams (SMATs) in Bombali district, Sierra Leone, to monitor and hold duty bearers accountable for the protection of the children rights of and the provision of basic education services;

- Launching its Community Monitoring for Accountable Health Service Delivery project in Kono district, Sierra Leone, aimed to increase access and improve the quality of healthcare services; and
- Monitoring both the Free Healthcare and Free Basic Education policies.

## 12. New Seminary

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

The New Seminary is a non-profit organization incorporated under the guidelines of the Board of Regents of the University of New York, United States of America. The organization has trained and ordained close to 3,000 Interfaith Ministers.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The New Seminary aims to help individuals and communities in deepening their understanding of, and honouring their expressions of faith; ordain and train Interfaith Ministers to serve as messengers of peace, tolerance and understanding; promote interfaith education as a means of resolving global conflict and fostering tolerance; and sponsor programmes focusing on the common moral values and community concerns shared by most faith and cultural traditions.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The organization opened a new office in Maryland, United States, where graduate degrees are offered.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The New Seminary contributed to the work of the United Nations by training and ordaining ministers each year as messengers and agents, promoting an Interfaith Approach as a tool for resolving global conflict and fostering equality and harmony. The organization held several community forums around the country and in select prisons where the interfaith message was presented. The organization participated in the programmes and efforts of the United Nations Committee on Spiritual Values and Global Concerns as well as the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended the sessions of the CSW in 2012 and 2013 and the Interfaith Harmony Week held in 2013, by offering volunteer programmes.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The New Seminary keeps offering to its students, staff and alumni to serve as volunteers with the general United Nations community to implement the MDG 8 and their individual programme needs.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The New Seminary supported MDG 1 by offering global poverty courses and structured dialogues to help ministerial students to be effective advocates and pastors for impoverished populations and communities. Toward MDG 3, it supported programmes such as the Sacred Women's Circles it sponsored in 2012 and 2103 as part of the Commission on the World Wide Status of Women. In addition, the organization regularly discusses and requires its students to be knowledgeable about the MDGs, and work with community-based organizations and programmes that support them.

## 13. Non-Governmental Ecological Vernadsky Foundation

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

Created in 1995, the Fund aims to achieve sustainable environment-oriented socioeconomic development of society on the basis of the scientific heritage of Academician VI Vernadsky.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Vernadsky Foundation aims to:

- Promote the fundamental principles of sustainable development;
- Promote the development and promotion of the scientific heritage of Academician VI Vernadsky;
- Improve environmental performance in the Russian Federation; and
- Increase international cooperation in the field of fund socioeconomic development, environmental protection, energy efficiency, environmental management, innovation and education.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The organization extended its activities to Kazakhstan and the Czech Republic.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

No contribution was specified.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended:

- The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, 20-22 June 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil;
- The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Committee, 36th Session, 24 June-6 July 2012, Saint Petersburg, Russia; and 37th Session, 16-27 June 2013, Phnom Penh, Cambodia;

- The 37th Session of the UNESCO General Conference, November 2013, Paris, France; and
- 5th and 6th Session of the Working Group on SDGs, 25-27 November and 9-13 December 2013.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Vernadsky Foundation collaborated with the United Nations Information Centre in Moscow, Russia, on environmental and sustainable development issues. It sponsored the 1st International Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, 22-25 May 2013, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia. The conference was co-organized by the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Vernadsky Foundation worked toward ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development. It contributed to the improvement of the national environmental legislation and exchange of best practices and conducted events on ecological education and sustainable development with the support of UNESCO. It conducted, under the auspices of UNESCO, its international project "Vernadsky Parallels" in Russia, Ukraine, France, Germany and Czech Republic in 2014. Finally, it launched scientific research events for young researchers in 2013.

## 14. Northern Ireland Women's European Platform

**Special, 1999**

**Introduction**

Northern Ireland Women's European Platform (NIWEP) is an umbrella organization for women's groups and organizations with a commitment to gender equality and the vision for a Northern Ireland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, where equality exists between women and men.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

NIWEP aims to reflect the position of women in Northern Ireland and ensure that it is represented in national and international standards and mechanisms; hold the government accountable for working towards equality; and inform and share international instruments and mechanisms with women to assist their work for equality.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization contributed through:

- Its representation of Northern Ireland among the United Kingdom organizations appointed to the European Women's Lobby;
- The preparation of a shadow report for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW);
- The development of a programme to engage with young women who are not involved in political decision; and
- The promotion and development of training programmes to promote the United Nations and its mechanisms to address gender inequality, including the resolution 1225 of the Security Council.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended the 55th to 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 2011-2014, New York. The organization organized side events, submitted publications and delivered statements during these sessions.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization has been involved in the annual International Women's Day through collaboration and support with women's groups and organizations in Northern Ireland. The organization has also been involved in Human Rights Week.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization trained women attending CSW 58, along with the Northern Ireland government in 2014, through visual presentations and a training manual.

## 15. OISCA International (South India chapter)

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The Organization for Industrial Spiritual & Cultural Advancement — International (OISCA — International) was founded in October 1961 in Japan. OISCA came to South India in 1985. The organization currently has 66 chapters with more than 4,000 members.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

OISCA-International contributes to humanity's environmentally sustainable development through a holistic approach emphasising the interconnectedness of agriculture, ecological integrity and the human spirit. To accomplish this, experiential programmes are implemented in order to transmit knowledge and skills and cultivate spiritual qualities such as dedication and self-reliance.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Through seminars, classes and national and international conferences, the organization spreads the messages of the United Nations throughout South India, which includes almost 233 million people.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

No participation was specified.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

During the reporting period, OISCA-International collaborated with the World Food Programme (WFP) to implement drinking water projects in various educational institutions in South India.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization conducted several initiatives:

- The Children's Forest Programme (CFP): through awareness classes about the significance of tree plantation, around 100,000 saplings are planted every year with the participation of 75,000 students. A similar project is currently being implemented in Karnataka, India;
- OISCA Toshiba Forest at JSS Institutions at Mysore, was successfully implemented in 10 selected educational institutions of JSS Mahavidya Peetha, Mysore, India; and
- Scholarship Scheme for Girl Students: As a part of CFP, the organization distributed scholarships to help poor school girls who excel in studies.

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# Quadrennial reports for the period 2011-2014 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General***

**Addendum**

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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## 1. ONC Hope International

**General consultative status: 2011**

**Introduction**

ONG HOPE International is active in Africa, Asia and Europe. Its focus is on Africa, where it is active in Madagascar, Côte d'Ivoire and Angola.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

ONG HOPE International focuses on rural economic development through the creation of reception and vocational training centres for the poorest and the granting of microcredits administered by ONG HOPE; establishment at HOPE Centres of libraries/media libraries, large sports centres, and multipurpose rooms for the organization of meetings of all types; and the provision of health centres with dispensaries and a team of basic health education/prevention providers.

**Significant changes in the organization**

ONG HOPE International has added a partner organization, Don du Livre, thanks to which it has been able to set up libraries at its HOPE Centres.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

ONG HOPE International is actively cooperating with United Nations bodies under the aegis of the Human Rights Council and certain specialized agencies. In particular, it has participated in the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development, the open-ended Working Group on the Draft United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training (on the drafting of which it collaborated), and the Social Forum. It also participates in international special days such as World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty and Human Rights Day, among others.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization participated actively in sessions 18 to 29 of the Human Rights Council (HRC). It made oral statements at the following sessions, among others: 18th session, item 3, Right to development; 22nd session, item 3, Interactive dialogue on the right to food; Item 7 and general debate: The human rights situation in Palestine and the other occupied Arab territories; and, 29th session, item 6: report of Kuwait. It submitted a written statement at the 24th session, Item 3: Right to development: Achieving Zero Hunger. It also took part in the Universal Periodic Reviews of sessions 12 to 22.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In 2014, ONG HOPE International participated in the meetings of the HRC Bureau and addressed the President of the Council. It submitted a technical analysis report on the appointment of Special Rapporteurs.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

ONG HOPE International is involved with all of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with the exception of MDG 6. MDG 1 is the organization's priority objective. Under MDG 7, the Organization has banned the use of inputs; uses natural fertilizers; and practices "soft agriculture". Under MDG 8, it cooperates with association and State partners, with certain reservations, and shares its expertise.

## 2. Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement

**General, 1995**

**Introduction**

OISCA is active in 34 countries and territories in Asia and Pacific, Africa, North America, and South America.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization's mission is to contribute to humanity's environmentally sustainable development through a holistic approach emphasizing the interconnectedness of agriculture, ecological integrity, and human spirit. To accomplish this, OISCA International implements and advocates hands-on experimental programmes for world citizens of all ages, transmitting knowledge and skills, and cultivating spiritual qualities as dedication, self-reliance, and universal brother/sisterhood.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

OISCA participated in the Green Wave Campaign spearheaded by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Through OISCA's Children's Forest Program, almost 50,000 participants in 20 countries were involved in tree planting activities, forest management, community clean-up drives, and environmental conservation related seminars and workshops.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

OISCA participated in the following meetings:

- United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, 20-22 June 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil;
- Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, 6th Meeting, 1-5 October 2012, Hyderabad, India;
- Conference of the Parties to the CBD, 11th Meeting, 8-9 October 2012, Hyderabad, India; and
- 2013 Annual Ministerial Review of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, 1-4 July 2013, Geneva, Switzerland.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

OISCA implemented the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) of the World Food Programme (WFP) in the Magway Region, Myanmar, as well as the Community-based Forest and Coastal Conservation and Resource Management project in Papua New Guinea, in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

OISCA sharpened the leadership skills of 5,000 youth through trainings in sustainable agriculture, home economics, and machineries in its 29 training centres located in 8 countries. OISCA led several projects as part of its Sustainable Development Project, including the development of Sustainable Communities in Negros Province, Philippines, through Silk Production; a Coastal Community Reconstruction Project in Demak, Central Java, Indonesia; and a Poverty Alleviation Project through the Growing of Stevia in Caraguatay Region, Paraguay. Through its Children Forest Program, OISCA educated school children on environmental conservation and conducted hands-on tree planting activities. A total of 445,337 trees were planted in an area of 407 hectares during the reporting period.

## 3. Palakkad District Consumers' Association

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Palakkad District Consumers' Association (PDCA) has been in activity for the last 24 years and focuses on the protection of the consumer's rights.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization aims at educating consumers and raising their awareness on certain issues, as well as finding ways to end corruption and unethical practices. Its consumer educational and awareness programmes support the public for higher standards of living; enable them to protect themselves from exploitation; help them get better employment, leading to economic and social progress; and promote respect for human rights.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

PDCA contributed to the work of the United Nations by celebrating certain special days, including: World Day of Social Justice, 20 February 2013; International Women's Day, 8 March 2013; World Press Freedom Day, 3 May 2013; and International Day of Non-Violence, 2 October 2013.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

PDCA participated in the 13th Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), 21-26 April 2012, and UNCTAD's Civil Society Forum, 17-27 April 2012, Doha, Qatar.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

PDCA worked with UNCTAD, among other organizations. PDCA receives UNCTAD's meetings decisions, books, and other materials by mail and shares them with its network and members through its regular programmes.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

No activities were specified.

## 4. Pathfinder International

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

Established in 1957, Pathfinder International (Pathfinder) works in nearly 20 countries, most of them located in Africa, in order to ensure a safe and healthy sexual life for everyone.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Pathfinder International aims at removing barriers to critical sexual and reproductive health services. It works in partnership with local governments to expand access to contraception, promote healthy pregnancies, save women's lives, and stop the spread of HIV/AIDS infections. Pathfinder strives to strengthen access to all form of care related to sexual life, including abortion and contraception.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The area of work targeted by Pathfinder International is closely related to the work of the United Nations, especially in achieving MDGs 3 and 8, and also helps achieving MDGs 1 and 2.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Pathfinder International participated in the 56th Session of the Commission on Status of Women (CSW), during which it gave a speech at a side event, New York, 27 February-9 March 2012.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Pathfinder collaborates with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in each of its country offices and also occasionally with other organs such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF). An illustrative example of its work with UNFPA is a project in Pakistan during which Pathfinder worked to empower local contraception champions, including government officials, to improve policies, programmes, and budgets for contraception at the provincial level.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Pathfinder focused on MDGs 5 and 6 during the reporting period. Pathfinder's services averted over 3,700 maternal deaths and there were over 5 million visits by women to health providers for antenatal and postpartum care. Pathfinder services also averted nearly 2.5 million unintended pregnancies. There were nearly 6 million visits to health facilities for contraceptive services and more than 12 million visits by young people for youth-friendly services. Over 2.5 million individuals received HIV and AIDS services from Pathfinder-supported projects; more than 71,000 HIV-positive people were treated with antiretroviral medicines; and over 12,000 pregnant women and exposed infants received preventive therapy.

## 5. Perhaps Kids Meeting Kids Can Make a Difference

**Special, 1995**

**Introduction**

Perhaps Kids Meeting Kids Can Make a Difference was founded in 1982. The organization works in over 140 different countries. It is run by youth for youth, aged 10 to 24.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization aims at increasing awareness among youth in order for them to participate more, take action for positive change, and make a difference in the world in which they live. This is done through the organization's webpage, social media, congresses, walks against violence, Children's International Rights Network, and meetings and workshops addressing issues of peace and children's rights.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Since 1982, the organization has continually informed young people about the United Nations and its goals, work, and accomplishments. All of its major meetings and International Children's Congresses are held either at the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) House or the Interchurch Center of the United Nations in New York.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Where possible, children and young people have participated in United Nations Conferences, NGO Working Groups, and major meetings on the girl child, education, and children's rights.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization works actively with UNICEF. It collaborated on the Study on Children and Violence, the Machel Study, and other activities concerning children and war.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization focuses on the MDGs related to youth, especially education and global partnership, through education aimed at non-violent solutions to conflicts.

## 6. Physicians for Human Rights

**Special, 1995**

**Introduction**

Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) has used science and medicine to document and call attention to mass atrocities and severe human rights violations for nearly 30 years in more than 60 countries.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

PHR's investigations and expertise are used to advocate for the protection of persecuted health workers and medical facilities under attack; prevent torture; document mass atrocities; and hold those who violate human rights accountable. PHR was founded on the idea that health professionals, with their specialized skills, ethical duties, and credible voices, are uniquely positioned to stop human rights violations.

**Significant changes in the organization**

PHR moved its headquarters from Boston to New York City, United States of America. It led small projects with staff in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and for a period in Amman, Jordan. PHR received several large government grants from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States, and the Netherlands Foreign Ministries, as well as the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women for new training programmes in conflict zones.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

PHR submitted reports to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process and interacted regularly with the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in conflict and the Special Representative on Children and Armed Conflict. Further, PHR briefed United Nations Permanent Representatives on a

variety of issues, including Security Council expert groups, and lobbied in support of relevant United Nations resolutions. It also provided information on attacks on health workers to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

PHR participated in in the Security Council review of the United Nations resolution 1325, as well as in the 55th, 56th, and 57th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 22 February-4 March and 14 March 2011, 27 February-9 March and 15 March 2012, 4-15 March 2013, New York

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

PHR regularly interacts with staff in Geneva, Switzerland, and field offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. It cooperates regularly with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), OCHA, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the World Health Organization (WHO), and Special Representatives, Rapporteurs, and Regional Envoys.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

PHR supported MDG 3 by securing justice for survivors of sexual violence in conflict zones.

## 7. Policy Research

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

Established in 2003, Policy Research (PR) advances positive social change in the socioeconomics, health and human rights' circumstances of disadvantaged people, especially women and children in Nigeria.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The purpose of PR is to generate empirical knowledge to support the building of sustainable socio-economic and political systems that guarantee equal participation and human development. It achieves its purpose through research, documentation and public education, policy analysis, technical assistance, and capacity building for participatory policy development.

**Significant changes in the organization**

PR amended its by-laws to ensure equality and to position the organization to actively promote equality and equal participation of men and women in Nigeria's socioeconomic and political development.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Some of the projects and activities that PR has implemented during the reporting period in Nigeria include:

- Strengthening youth's participation, equality, and social justice in Nigeria, by conducting regional research on youth's participation and designing and disseminating civic education materials to increase citizen's participation in economics, governance, and political issues in their local community and at national level;
- Strengthening young people's leadership capacity to help children and youth better understand the challenges of sustainable development; and
- The formation of a men and women coalition against domestic violence in Nigeria in partnership with other civil society organizations.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

PR attended various United Nations' meetings including Post-2015 High-level planning meetings in Nigeria, Indonesia, and New York. It also participated in several online meetings and discussions on various thematic Post-2015 sustainable development conferences, events, and meetings.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

PR, in collaboration with the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), carried out a National Post Vaccination Survey in Nigeria from July 2010 to December 2011. PR is a member of Stop Tuberculosis (TB) Global Partnership. Policy Research organizes TB awareness campaigns to enlighten and educate the public about TB and the need for early diagnosis and treatment.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

In support of MDG 6, PR led activities as part of World TB Day in 2014. It also worked toward MDG 8 through the initiative "Organizing Young Pe ρle", which gave the opportunity to Nigerian youth to express themselves on development challenges affecting them.

## 8. Prison Fellowship International

**Special, 1983**

**Introduction**

Prison Fellowship International (PFI) is a voluntary association of national Prison Fellowship organisations in 124 countries. PFI is involved in a broad range of criminal justice concerns and works through its affiliate organizations to promote participation in criminal justice.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Its mission is to engage the Christian community to pursue justice and healing in response to crime so that offenders are transformed, relationships are reconciled, and communities are restored.

**Significant changes in the organization**

PFI has increased its membership from 124 countries in 2011 to 127 in 2014.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

PFI focused especially on the area of restorative justice. PFI has attempted to update the general public on activities through two organizational websites and PFI publications sent to affiliates worldwide.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

PFI participated in the Committee on the Rights of the Child's Day of General Discussion on Children of Incarcerated Parents, 30 September 2011, Geneva, Switzerland. PFI is a member of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in New York and has participated in the regular meetings of the Alliance.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

PFI cooperates with the United Nations system through its representation at the United Nations Headquarters and main offices in New York, Geneva, Switzerland, and Vienna, Austria. Information and news related to United Nations activities and publications are sent to PFI national affiliates regularly and disseminated through PFI's various publications and websites.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

PFI launched its Children of Prisoners project in 2013 to address MDGs 1, 2, and 4. The project addresses four key areas of these children's needs, as follows:

- Safety, by helping them find safe housing, protected from abuse;
- Health, by ensuring secure basic healthcare and monitoring their health;
- Education, by facilitating school attendance; and
- Resiliency of Spirit, by supporting them in developing healthy relationships with themselves, their peers, families, communities, and God.

The projects vary from country to country but most of them include these common components: they are community-based; utilize individualized case management; either deliver services or advocate for families to access services available in the community; provide educational support; attempt to reconnect children with their parent in prison; and include annual or regular gatherings from 1-5 days where all children and a caregiver are brought in to participate in programmes.

## 9. Program in International Human Rights Law

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

Founded in 1997, the Program in International Human Rights Law (PIHRL) has a broad mandate related to the promotion of international human rights law, international criminal law and international humanitarian law worldwide.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

PIHRL works to promote international human rights through teaching, scholarships, assistance to governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, and student placement.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

PIHRL assisted in researching and writing a Shadow Report submitted to the United Nations Human Rights Committee and advised on other treaty body work. PIHRL supported individuals and NGOs in utilizing treaty-based and United Nations Charter-based mechanisms to further their human rights goals.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

PIHRL attended the United Nations Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva, Switzerland, and attended sessions of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY).

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

PIHRL assisted NGOs in submitting shadow reports to the Human Rights Committee in Geneva. PIHRL collected United Nations human rights publications for dissemination to law students enrolled in schools in the United States of America. PIHRL law student interns worked with refugees and asylum seekers who have been involved with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in various countries including the Republic of Georgia and Moldova.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

PIHRL promoted MDG 3 by sending law students to work as interns on rights of women issues in India, Austria, Ireland, and Thailand, among other countries. PIHRL has sent multiple interns along the years to work on HIV/AIDS related human rights projects in Southeast Asia, thus promoting MDG 6. PIHRL supported MDG 8 by studying and working on international development issues.

## 10. Protection de l'environnement et de l'écosystème

**Special consultative status: 2011**

**Introduction**

Protection de l'environnement et de l'écosystème (PEECO) is a Mauritanian NGO founded in 2003.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

PEECO is active in the areas of environmental protection and biodiversity; sustainable development; the fight against poverty in all its forms; and the improvement of health and hygiene facilities.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Until such time as it can join the Conference of NGOs (CoNGO) and so become more involved in the work of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, PEECO's activity is primarily at the national level. In particular, it has organized a series of five training sessions for its regional offices.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization attended the 51st session of the Commission for Social Development (CSoD) held from 6 to 15 February 2013 in New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

At the national level, in the area of environmental development, PEECO works closely with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); in the area of food safety, with the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); and, in humanitarian matters, with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization WHO.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

PEECO has undertaken activities related to Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, on the following themes: climate change; empowerment of women; health for all; and food security.

## 11. Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme

**Special consultative status: 2003**

**Introduction**

Rencontre africaine pour la défense des droits de l'homme (RADDHO) is a Senegalese NGO founded in 1990 that works to promote and defend human rights in Africa.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

RADDHO's goals are to promote, defend and protect human rights at the national, regional and international levels.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

RADDHO contributed to the 16th, 17th, 18th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 24th sessions of the Human Rights Council (HRC) in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

RADDHO participated in the HRC sessions on the human rights situation in various countries during the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of States. It also participated in the meetings of the Committee against Torture, the Committee on Migrant Workers, and the Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the 3rd and 4th reports of Canada under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, held 26 and 27 September 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland. At the national level, RADDHO regularly participates in the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in West and Central Africa, in particular the meetings of the National Human Rights Advisory Council (CCNDH) and of OHCHR.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

RADDHO works closely with the specialized United Nations bodies based in Senegal, making its contribution to studies and research, the preparation of reports, and the joint organization of meetings and humanitarian activities as well as the implementation of operational projects funded by specialized United Nations bodies.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

RADDHO's activities in support of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have focused on Goals 4, 5, 6 and 7 and involved access to drinking water and sanitation as well as women's reproductive health.

## 12. Réseaux IP européens Network Coordination Centre

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Réseaux IP européens Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC) is a European-based NGO present in 76 countries that supports Internet's infrastructure through technical coordination in Europe, the Middle East, and parts of Central Asia.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

RIPE NCC serves as a Regional Internet Registry (RIR), providing global Internet number resources and related services to members. It also provides a range of public services, including operation of the K-root name server, the RIPE Database, and the RIPE Routing Registry.

**Significant changes in the organization**

RIPE NCC's membership has increased by more than 50% during the reporting period, to more than 11,000. RIPE NCC has a new regional office in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and in the Russian Federation.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

RIPE NCC contributed to the work of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the United Nations at large by addressing Internet governance issues, including active participation in discussions surrounding the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and contributions to the IGF Open Consultations. In 2012, RIPE NCC responded to the questionnaire of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development's (CSTD) Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation. RIPE NCC contributed to the work of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), via the ITU IPv6 Group, as well as to the annual World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

RIPE NCC takes part in all of the annual IGF events by organizing and reporting on sessions; contributing speakers; and facilitating the attendance and participation of community representatives. RIPE NCC also participated in the World Telecommunication Policy Forum (WTPF), Geneva, Switzerland, May 2013.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

As well as contributing to the IGF, the five RIRs also provide significant financial support to the IGF. RIPE NCC works closely with United Nations agencies, including the ITU, on capacity building efforts, including IPv6 training efforts in Arab States, and a cooperative effort in Montenegro to develop the country's first Internet Exchange Point.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The work of RIPE NCC has contributed to MDG 8 in expanding access to the Internet in developing areas. 25 events were organized in the Arab region during the reporting period, training more than 300 operators. RIPE NCC also plays a major role in sponsoring and coordinating the establishment of new Network Operators' Groups in developing regions such as the Middle East and the Eurasian region.

## 13. Rural Women Environmental Protection Association

**Special, 1999**

**Introduction**

Rural Women Environmental Protection Association (RWEPA) is a network of women, youth and individual subgroups in Africa, in Cameroon in particular, and the United States of America.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

RWEPA is a community driven organization working to achieve sustainable livelihoods and development of humankind. It promotes human rights and education for all; advocates for the protection and safeguarding of tangible and intangible cultural heritage: protects the environment and biodiversity; leads sensitization campaigns to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS; and strives towards poverty eradication and sustainable development.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

RWEPA contributed to the work of the United Nations by advocating for elementary education for all, especially the Fulani girl-child; advocating for the respect of human rights and rights of indigenous peoples; fostering the protection and safeguarding of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, cultural diversity and biodiversity: inculcating the culture of peaceful conflict resolution amongst the members and their communities; encouraging sustainable farming methods; reducing the process of deforestation and encouraging reforestation; and encouraging community driven development.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

RWEPA participated in the following meetings of the United Nations:

- It made a presentation at the International Training Course on the Role of Civil Societies in Combatting Desertification, 13-18 June 2012, Ankara, Turkey;
- It participated in the 7th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), 1-8 December 2012, Paris, France;

- It prepared and submitted the national project to implement Conventions 2003 and 2005 of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 18 January 2013, Cameroon;
- It participated in the EXPO2013 Guizhou Guiyang Exhibition in China, 13-18 November 2013; and
- It participated as a facilitator in the first national workshop to train trainers to conduct an Inventory of Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage 5-9 March 2014, Yaoundé, Cameroon.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

RWEPA experts put in place the strategic document to implement UNESCO's Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Cameroon.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

RWEPA worked toward MDGs 2, 3, 6 and 7 with the following projects:

- MDG 2: Education of Fulani girls and women;
- MDG 3: Education of women on ways to carry out small income generating activities, and advocacy for rural woman to help them obtain marriage licenses with their partners;
- MDG 6: Sensitization sessions on HIV/AIDS among school-aged children; and
- MDG 7: Promotion of reforestation.

## 14. Schweizerische Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Jugendverbände

**Special, 2011**

**Introduction**

The Swiss National Youth Council (SNYC) is the umbrella organization of about 65 youth organizations in Switzerland and represents their interests in the public arena.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

SNYC's mission is to generate possibilities for young people to participate in society as a whole and to develop into socially conscious, active citizens.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

SNYC, through its Youth Rep programme that sends youth delegates to the United Nations, is promoting the work of the United Nations toward the Swiss youth. Every year, the Youth Rep present the work of the United Nations in Swiss schools and various events.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

During the 5th Session of the Forum on Minority Issues, under Agenda Item 6, SNYC delivered a statement on the opportunities and empowering minorities and young people belonging to minorities, Geneva, Switzerland, 27-28 November 2012. During the same Forum, SNYC took part in a meeting on "Implementing the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities: Identifying positive practices and opportunities".

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

No cooperation was specified.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

SNYC is currently planning its involvement in the monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals from a youth perspective.

## 15. Simon Wiesenthal Center

**Special, 1995**

**Introduction**

The Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC) is an international Jewish human rights organization established in 1977 with a membership of over 400,000. It is headquartered in the United States of America and holds regional bureaus in North America, Europe, the Middle East and Latin America.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The SWC draws the lessons of the Holocaust to the analysis of contemporary issues. The Centre confronts anti-Semitism, hate, and terrorism and promotes human rights and dignity. The Museum of Tolerance Los Angeles and the Museum of Tolerance New York function as the educational arm of the SWC in the United States.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In August 2014, the SWC met with Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon at the United Nations Headquarters during the conflict in Gaza, State of Palestine, to discuss ways of promoting peace in the region. The SWC's exhibition, "People, Book, Land: The 3500 Year Relationship of the Jewish People with the Holy Land" was held at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) headquarters in Paris in 2014. SWC representatives attended the Durban III World Conference Against Racism at the United Nations General Assembly in 2011.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The SWC attended the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-22 June 2012. During the reporting period, the SWC hosted many United Nations affiliated-events at the Museum of Tolerance New York. The Centre raised the issue of the persecution of Gays in Africa at the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), Geneva, Switzerland, May 2011.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The SWC has worked closely with the Department of Public Information (DPI) on various programmes. In May 2012, it co-hosted with DPI a film screening and panel discussion of its educational film on genocide "Cambodia: A Quest for Justice", which was used by the Office of the Special Advisor for Prevention of Genocide for training purposes. Another DPI/SWC programme in 2013 included participants from Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Djibouti, Dominica, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Poland, and Sierra Leone.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

SWC has developed exhibits on the economic and political exploitation of children, as well as ongoing interactive high tech educational programmes regarding female mutilation, trafficking of women, and sexual objectification of women in its Museums of Tolerance in Los Angeles and New York, United States, in support of MDG 2 and 3.